Amendments to the Claims

1. (previously presented) A compound that is an ester of an R-enantiomer of a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug substantially free from the S-enantiomer wherein said ester is from an esterifying agent comprising 3 to 6 carbon atoms, at least one hydroxyl group and one or more carboxyl groups, 1 to 4 hydroxyl groups, one or more aldehyde groups, a gamma lactone, a delta lactone, an amine, an imine or a lactam and wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory is an arylpropionic acid or a cyclized derivative thereof.

2. (original) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein said esterifying agent has the formula:

$$Q\text{-}CH(A)\text{-}CH(D)\text{-}J\text{-}Q^1$$

wherein A is OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting a predetermined level of water solubility,

D is OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting water a predetermined level of solubility,

wherein J is $C(G)=C(G)$, $(CH(G))_n$

G is independently OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting a predetermined level of water solubility,

n is 0, 1 or 2,

Q is CH-OH, CH_3, COOH or CHO,

Q^1 is H, CH-OH, CH_3, COOH or CHO,

wherein, when Q^1 is COOH, n is 1 or 2, and A or D is OH, Q^1 may be taken together with A or D to form a lactone.

3. (original) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein said esterifying agent has the formula:

$$Q\text{-}CH(A)\text{-}CH(D)\text{-}J\text{-}\ Q^{1}$$

wherein A is OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting a predetermined level of water solubility,

D is OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting water a predetermined level of solubility,

wherein J is $C(G)=C(G)$, $(CH(G))_n$

G is independently OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting a predetermined level of water solubility,

n is 0, 1 or 2,

Q is CH-OH, CH_3, COOH or CHO,

Q^1 is H, CH-OH, CH_3, COOH or CHO.

4. (original) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein said esterifying agent has the formula:

$$Q\text{-}CH(A)\text{-}CH(D)\text{-}J\text{-}\ Q^{1}$$

wherein A is OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting a predetermined level of water solubility,

D is OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting water a predetermined level of solubility,

wherein J is $(CH(G))_n$

G is independently OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting a predetermined level of water solubility,

n is 0, 1 or 2,

Q is CH-OH, CH_3 or COOH,

Q^1 is H, CH-OH, CH_3 or COOH.

5. (original) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein said esterifying agent is

selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, glycerol, propylene glycol, hydroxysuccinic acid, hydroxyglutamic acid, glyceric acid, tartaric acid, xylaric acid, malic acid, lactic acid and hydroxybutyric acid.

6. (original) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug is selected from the group consisting of naproxen, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen, etodolac, ketoprofen, ketorolac, tiaprofenic acid, suprofen, carprofen, pirprofen, indoprofen, and benoxaprofen.

7. (previously presented) A compound that is an ester of an R-enantiomer of a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug substantially free from the S-enantiomer wherein said ester is from an esterifying agent that is non-cyclic and comprises 3 to 6 carbon atoms, at least one hydroxyl group and one or more carboxyl groups and 1 to 4 hydroxyl groups and wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory is an arylpropionic acid or a cyclized derivative thereof.

8. (original) A compound according to Claim 7 wherein said esterifying agent is selected from the group consisting of glycerol, propylene glycol, hydroxysuccinic acid, hydroxyglutamic acid, glyceric acid, tartaric acid, xylaric acid, malic acid, lactic acid and hydroxybutyric acid.

9. (original) A compound according to Claim 7 wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug is selected from the group consisting of naproxen, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen, etodolac, ketoprofen, ketorolac, tiaprofenic acid, suprofen, carprofen, pirprofen, indoprofen, and benoxaprofen.

10. (previously presented) A compound of the formula:

$$\{Q\text{-}CH(A)\text{-}CH(D)\text{-}J\text{-}Q^1\}\text{-}OC(O)W$$

wherein, when not linked to -OC(O)W,

A is OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting a predetermined level of water solubility,

D is OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting water a predetermined level of solubility,

wherein J is C(G)=C(G), $(CH(G))_n$,

n is 0, 1 or 2, and

wherein, when not linked to -OC(O)W,

G is independently OH, H, NH_2, a protecting group, or a group imparting a predetermined level of water solubility,

wherein, when not a carbon linked to -OC(O)W,

Q is H, CH-OH, CH_3, COOH or CHO,

Q^1 is H, CH-OH, CH_3, COOH or CHO,

wherein, when Q^1 is COOH, n is 1 or 2, and A or D is OH, Q^1 may be taken together with A or D to form a lactone, and

wherein only one of A, D, G, Q or Q^1 comprises -OC(O)W, and

wherein W is an R-NSAID analog substantially free from S-enantiomer and wherein said R-NSAID is an arylpropionic acid or a cyclized derivative thereof and

wherein said compound comprises one or more carboxyl groups and 1 to 4 hydroxyl groups.

11. (original) A compound according to Claim 10 wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug is selected from the group consisting of naproxen, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen, etodolac, ketoprofen, ketorolac, tiaprofenic acid, suprofen, carprofen, pirprofen, indoprofen, and benoxaprofen.

12. (previously presented) A compound, which is an ascorbic acid ester of an R-enantiomer of a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug substantially free from the S-enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory is an arylpropionic acid or a cyclized derivative thereof.

13. (original) A compound according to Claim 12 wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug is selected from the group consisting of naproxen, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen, etodolac, ketoprofen, ketorolac, tiaprofenic acid, suprofen, carprofen, pirprofen, indoprofen, and benoxaprofen.

14. (original) A compound according to Claim 13 wherein said ascorbic acid is selected from the group consisting of L-ascorbic acid and its enantiomer and D-erythorbic acid and its enantiomer.

15. (original) A method for treating a disease or illness in a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal a composition comprising an enantiomerically stable form of a compound according to Claim 1 in an amount effective to elicit a chemopreventative effect or a therapeutic effect or a prophylactic effect or a chemoprotective effect.

16. (original) A method according to Claim 15 wherein said disease or illness is inflammation, cystic fibrosis, dementia, or neoplastic disease.

17. (original) A method according to Claim 15 wherein said mammal is a human.

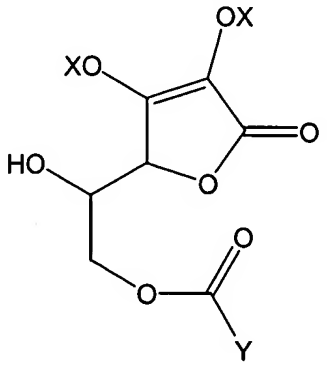
18. (original) A method according to Claim 15 wherein said composition is administered orally, transdermally, intravenously or by suppository.

19. (original) A method according to Claim 15 wherein said composition is administered in an amount of from about 1.0 mg to about 2000 mg per day in one or more doses.

20. (original) A method according to Claim 15 wherein said composition is administered in an amount of from about 10 mg to about 800 mg once or twice a day.

21. (original) A method according to Claim 15 wherein said composition comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

22. (previously presented) A compound of the formula:



wherein Y is an R-NSAID analog substantially free from S-enantiomer and wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory is an arylpropionic acid or a cyclized derivative thereof,

X is H, a protecting group, or a group imparting a predetermined level of water solubility,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

23. (original) A compound according to Claim 22 wherein said R-NSAID analog is selected from the group consisting of analogs of R-naproxen, R-flurbiprofen, R-ibuprofen, R-etodolac, R-ketoprofen, R-ketorolac, R-tiaprofenic acid, R-suprofen, R-carprofen, R-pirprofen, R-indoprofen, and R-benoxaprofen.

24. (original) A method for treating a disease or illness in a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal a composition comprising an enantiomerically stable form of a compound according to Claim 22 in an amount effective to elicit a chemoprotective effect or therapeutic effect.

25. (original) A method according to Claim 24 wherein said disease or illness is inflammation, cystic fibrosis, Alzheimer's disease, or neoplastic disease.

26. (original) A method according to Claim 24 wherein said mammal is a human.

27. (original) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said composition is administered orally, transdermally, intravenously or intrathecally.

28. (original) A method according to Claim 24 wherein said composition is administered in an amount of from about 1.0 mg to about 2000 mg per day in one or more doses.

29. (original) A method according to Claim 24 wherein said composition is administered in an amount of from about 10 mg to about 800 mg once or twice a day.

30. (original) A method according to Claim 24 wherein said composition comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. (currently amended) A method for making a compound of Claim 12, said method comprising:

(a) reacting the terminal hydroxy group of said ascorbic acid with a protecting group,

(ba) reacting the vicinal ring hydroxy groups and the secondary hydroxy group of said ascorbic acid with protecting groups,

(cb) removing the protecting group from the terminal hydroxy group and reacting the terminal hydroxy group of said ascorbic acid with an activated form of said R-NSAID and

(dc) removing said protecting groups.

32. (original) A method according to Claim 31 wherein said NSAID comprises a nitrogen atom and said method further comprises preparing an acid addition salt thereof.